PROPERTY OF
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY
JAN 1 1967
RECEIVED
DOCUMENTS DIVISION

COMMANDERS DIGEST

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, D.C.

Vol. 2, No. 105 December 31, 1966

Ambassador Lodge Reports On 'Four-Front' Vietnam War

There are four kinds of war going on simultaneously in Vietnam and failure in any one will undercut success in the others, according to Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge.

He said the military and political war is going quite well, and described the economic war as a satisfactory accomplishment "although it is not perfect."

The pacification war, or control over Viet Cong terrorists, he termed "a tedious, tiresome business" that is not yet rolling as it should be. There are some good doctrines in this respect, he said, and some pilot projects show promise.

Ambassador Lodge said the "great edge of East Asia" has been denied to Peking expansionism, explaining "this would surely not have happened had we been driven out of Vietnam, or had we abandoned Vietnam."

The ambassador said he could not think of an aggressive threat to Australia and Japan, for example, that would not almost immediately involve World War III.

He said he believed that what the U.S. is doing in Vietnam is not only something for the Vietnamese, but a limited action to prevent an unlimited holocaust.

Stateside Stabilized Tour Policies Revised by Army

Army has revised some policies on stateside stabilized tours to achieve greater equity in assigning enlisted personnel to foreign service, particularly to short tour areas, while maintaining the necessary continuity and experience in the training base.

The commanding general of the Continental Army Command may still stabilize up to 50 percent of the total enlisted personnel assigned to the training base, exclusive of drill sergeants authorized in basic combat training companies. The drill sergeant stabilized tour continues to be 18 months.

Priority in assignment to stabilized positions will be given to those returning from the Republic of Vietnam and other short tour areas. Those who have served six months or longer in the continental U.S. on their current tour normally will not be assigned to stabilized positions.

HISTORIC FOOTBALL—Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell (center) receives the football which gave the Air Force Academy Falcons the winning points in their first victory over the U.S. Naval Academy Oct. 1, 1966. Making the presentation are (from left): Falcon place-kicker Cadet Second Class Dick Hall; Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Moorman, and Falcon co-captains Cadets First Class Scott Jackson and Lloyd Duncan. Final score in the game was 15-7.

Marine General Completes Vietnam Inspection Tour

U.S. Marines in Vietnam are "determined" and see a clear need for their presence there, reports a three-star general after completing an 11-day trip to Western Pacific units.

Lt. Gen. Leonard F. Chapman Jr., Chief of Staff, Hqs., USMC, said problems involved in sustaining a force of more than 62,000 in a combat environment are not particularly easy ones to solve—but they are all manageable and they are being solved.

"I came back to Washington reassured that we have both the material and the men to fight the war in Vietnam effectively and convinced that the Marine Corps is doing an excellent job of carrying out its responsibilities in Vietnam," he said.

Two programs he referred to as particularly noteworthy are assignment of Marine squads to Popular Forces units providing security for liberated villages, and treatment of civilians and Marines by Navy medical personnel.

Washington Memos

TITAN III-B SPACE booster launch Dec. 14 established new record for missiles launched in one year at Vandenberg AFB, Calif. Launch was 118th missile from base during 1966, bettering by one old record set in 1964.

DURING FIRST 23 DAYS of December, 5,556 tons of mail were airlifted to servicemen in the Republic of Vietnam. Of this, 629 tons were moved between 18-23 Dec., and 143 tons were delivered on Dec. 23 alone.

ARMY MEMBERS RETURNING from Vietnam on special leave as recently authorized by Public Law 89-735 will be issued DA Form 2467, Casual Payment Record. This means they may receive casual payment, if entitled to pay, at any military finance and accounting office while enroute or while at home on special leave.

THAILAND PAYS FLORAL tribute to U.S. Navy Seabees with float entry in Tournament of Roses Parade in California. The theme, "Thailand welcomes U.S. Navy Seabees," points up unity of purpose of Seabees of both nations. This will begin full-year celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Seabees and the 100th anniversary of Navy's Civil Engineer Corps.

LT. GEN. SETH J. McKEE, USAF, Commander, U.S. Forces Japan and Fifth Air Force, has received a second Oak Leaf Cluster to the Legion of Merit from Gen. Hunter Harris Jr., Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Air Forces. Award was for Gen. McKee's service as Director of Plans and Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Operations for Joint Chiefs of Staff Matters, Pentagon.

MEN OF NAVY'S Detroyer Squadron Three, composed of USS Leonard F. Mason, USS Orleck and USS Highbee, collected $455.50 to buy an artificial leg as Christmas gift for Anna Christina Nava, a 16-year-old girl in Acapulco, Mexico.

REAL CHRISTMAS TREE was sent to Sp4 Dan Owen, 25th Inf. Div., Vietnam. He and his wife, Pat, planned the operation for months. Tree was mailed from Redwood City, Calif. Postal department delivered it, with decorations, in perfect condition six days after it was mailed.

U.S. MARINE CORPS personnel programs must provide for effective transfer of 10,000 men per month in Vietnam. This represents 5,000 coming into the country as replacements and 5,000 outgoing to other assignments.

U.S. ARMY'S 4th Transportation Command collected $358,558 in Vietnamese dollars as part of a fund-raising campaign to assist victims of recent Mekong Delta floods, which left thousands homeless, ravaged crops and swept away livestock in the western provinces of RVN.

FOURTH DEEPWATER PIER for ocean-going vessels has been opened by Army's Cam Ranh Support Command in Vietnam. New pier, to be operated by 1st Logistical Command's 10th Transportation Bn., will be used exclusively for unloading ammunition ships.

ATLAS-CENTAUR HAS been chosen by NASA to launch Orbiting Astronomical Observatory series of satellites and Applications Technology Satellites D and E, scheduled to begin in 1968. Switch to Centaur means a phase-out of NASA use of Atlas-Agena vehicle after 26 missions. Centaur, first rocket to use liquid hydrogen fuel, is capable of launching about 40 percent greater payload than Agena into near-Earth orbit and about three times payload on lunar trajectory.

DR. HUBERTUS STRUGHOLD, chief scientist of Aerospace Medical Div., Brooks AFB, Tex., has been named recipient of International Ambassadors' Council's "Outstanding Peace and Scientific Award" for 1966. Dr. Strughold was honored for his pioneer research in space medicine.

WOMEN MARINES WILL have greater assignment opportunity in the Western Pacific. First such assignments west of Hawaii were recently completed and there will be more on the way.

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION will honor outstanding airman of year at Spring convention in San Francisco, March 15-17. Airmen of all grades, including WAF, are eligible for selection. This marks 11th year the association has chosen an airman guest to attend convention activities.

NASA WILL SPONSOR four institutes for nationally-selected undergraduates next summer. Program, in sixth year, acquaints upper-division students with problems of space science and engineering. During course, students will observe actual operating conditions and environment of a modern space center. Program lasts about five weeks.

RADM. HARRY L. HARTY JR., USN, commander, Anti-Submarine Warfare Group 3, has embarked in his new flagship, the aircraft carrier USS Hornet. The Pacific fleet ASW group was last embarked on the carrier USS Yorktown.

SERVICE ATHLETES ON 1966 All-America track and field squad picked by Amateur Athletic Union are Army's Tom Farrell and Air Force's Pat Traynor.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

Published semi-weekly by Press Division Armed Forces News Bureau, 1117 No. 19th St., Arlington, Va. 22209, a unified activity of the Directorate for Armed Forces Information and Education, OASD(M). This publication contains official information, news and policy, direct from Washington authorized sources. Reproduction of content is authorized. Suggested dateline for materials used is WASHINGTON (AFNB).

AF Reduces Time-in-Grade For Promotion to Captain

The Air Force is reducing to 3½ years the time of creditable promotion service required for upgrading to captain.

The action brings Air Force's previous 4½ year requirement down to the Navy's time-in-grade policy for the equivalent grade, and follows Army's lowering of its requirements for captain promotion to 2½ years by June 1967.

A December selection of more than 11,000 Air Force officers for promotion to temporary major created a similar number of captain vacancies to be filled during Jan. 1-April 2.

The three-phase program, announced by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell, includes the following promotion plan to temporary captain for line of the Air Force, nurse, medical service corps and biomedical sciences corps:

From Jan. 1-Feb. 24 about 6,089 first lieutenants on the July 1966 selection list will be promoted.

About 5,152 first lieutenants will be selected for upgrading prior to Feb. 24 with promotions during Feb. 25-April 2. Approximately 150 officers will be promoted each day during this period.

Commencing April 3, promotion of first lieutenants to captain selected by major air commanders upon completion of 3½ years active commissioned service (Reserve) or promotion list service (Regular).

In all cases the promotion date will be the date of rank for each officer.

Officers credited with constructive service also benefit from the new accelerated Air Force promotion policy. These include chaplains, veterinarians, judge advocates and medical service officers holding a Ph.D or equivalent degree. Beginning Jan. 1 they will be eligible for promotion to captain after six months active duty.

The new policy also delegates to major commands promotion authority to the temporary grade of captain.

Army Issues Medicare Fact Sheet

The Army Surgeon General's Office has released a comprehensive fact sheet on the new uniformed services health benefits program, Public Law 89-614, including payment procedures for dependents of active duty personnel.

The fact sheet lists more than 50 fiscal agents handling reimbursement claims for inpatient and outpatient care received in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Canada and Mexico. Claims in other areas will be handled by the appropriate overseas commander.

NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL — Capt. Edwin M. Rosenberg, USN (left), commanding officer of the heavy guided missile cruiser USS Canberra, receives the Navy Commendation Medal from RAdm. Alexander S. Goodfellow Jr., Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Flotilla 7. The award, made in the name of Navy Secretary Paul H. Nitze, was "for meritorious service as Assistant Chief of Staff, Commander First Fleet." The Canberra is now serving with the Seventh Fleet off the coast of Vietnam.

NASA Names Crews for 2nd, 3rd Manned Apollo Space Missions

NASA has named crews for the second and third manned Apollo missions. Prime flight crew for Apollo-Saturn 205-208, the second mission, is Lt. Col. James A. McDivitt, USAF, commander; Lt. Col. David R. Scott, USAF, command module pilot, and Russell Schweickart, lunar module pilot.

Prime crew for the AS-503 mission, the third flight and the first using the Saturn V launch vehicle, is Col. Frank Borman, USAF, commander; Lt. Col. Michael Collins, command module pilot, and Maj. William A. Anders, lunar module pilot.

Backup crew for the second mission consists of Lt. Col. Thomas P. Stafford, USAF; Cdr. John W. Young, USN, and Cdr. Eugene A. Cernan, USN. Cdr. Charles Conrad Jr., USN, Cdr. Richard F. Gordon Jr., USN, and Maj. C. C. Williams, USMC, make up the backup crew for the third mission.

Both missions are scheduled in 1967 but depend on the success of other Apollo missions including the first manned flight, scheduled for the first quarter of 1967.

Crew of the first manned mission consists of Lt. Col. Virgil I. Grissom, USAF, command pilot, Lt. Col. Edward H. White II, USAF, senior pilot, and Lt. Roger A. Chaffee, USN, pilot.

Korean Children Get Salk Polio Vaccine With 8th Army Help

Men of the 8th U.S. Army helped speed an unusual Christmas gift to the children of Korea in time for the holidays.

Two million doses of Salk poliomyelitis vaccine, weighing eight tons and valued at almost a million dollars, arrived at Inchon Dec. 19 from the United States aboard the SS President Monroe.

To transport the vaccine from Inchon to Seoul, 8th Army used specially designed refrigerator vans of the 69th Transportation Battalion to keep the vaccine at the required temperatures of 35 and 50 degrees F.

The vaccine was donated by Eli Lilly and Co., through the American Korean Foundation. It will be dispatched to 89 health centers and 935 clinics throughout Korea. The vaccine will then be administered in three doses to 600,000 Korean children from six months to three years of age.

USMC Observation Squadron Reactivated at Camp Pendleton

After nearly 22 years of deactivation, Marine Observation Squadron 5 has been reactivated at the U.S. Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Camp Pendleton, Calif. Its mission will be to support the newly-activated Fifth Marine Division, now forming at Camp Pendleton.

Official purpose of the squadron will be to train replacement pilots and ground crews for overseas deployment with the ultimate design of supporting Marine infantrymen in combat. Training will be in navigation, rescue, aerial gunnery, medical evacuation and re-supply areas.

The squadron was originally activated in 1944 at Quantico, Va., and was disbanded 25 months later in Sasebo, Japan.

DOUBLE HONORS—Capt. Thomas R. Sargent III, USCG, chief of 11th Coast Guard District's operations division, Long Beach, Calif., has been simultaneously awarded the Legion of Merit and nominated for promotion to rear admiral. The Legion of Merit was awarded for Capt. Sargent's supervision of the development and construction of Loran stations in Thailand and Vietnam. He is one of six Coast Guard captains nominated for promotion prior to July 1, 1967, subject to Congressional approval.

'Flying Boxcars' Return To Active AF Duty

Flying Boxcars are returning to active Air Force duty with Air Defense Command, Hamilton AFB, Calif., with the first of nine undergoing maintenance check after a three-year mothball internment in Florida.

The first twin-engine transport was flown to Hamilton's Detachment 2, 4650th Support Squadron. Detachment pilots will soon be flying the C119J transports on regular missions for the first time since 1960.

Use of the modified Boxcars to carry aircraft parts to ADC bases and sites in the United States will release the detachment's C-123 Providers for Vietnam duty.

AF Seeks Volunteers For Munitions Disposal

The Air Force is seeking more than 200 airmen volunteers to become munitions disposal technicians, AFSC 464XO, which carries $30 monthly proficiency pay and $55 monthly hazard pay.

Airmen from other munitions skills, AFSCs 46150, 46250 and 46350 are eligible. Only Airmen first class and second class will be accepted in 46250, with staff sergeants and below eligible in the other AFSCs.

Applications may be forwarded through normal personnel channels for EOD training, at the Navy-conducted course at Indian Head, Md. Stateside volunteers may return to their parent organizations or be assigned where needed.

Army Personnel Make France-to-Britain Move

Relocation of a limited amount of NATO-committed U.S. Army stores and supplies from France to the United Kingdom will result in some 200 Army personnel making the move shortly after Jan. 1.

The first contingent will move into a depot recently occupied by the U.S. Air Force at Burtonwood, Lancashire. The remainder will later go to existing Ministry of Defense Storage Depots.

More than 500 British civilians will soon be needed to work at U.S. Army supply facilities in the U. K.

Army Emphasizes Physical Condition as Promotion Factor

Army has sent a message to major commands telling commanders they must consider physical condition in making promotions even though present regulations allow a waiver of this qualification.

Regulations prescribe that individuals obtain a passing score on the applicable physical fitness test for promotion to E-5 or higher.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.
Price 5 cents (single copy). Subscription Price: $2.50 per year; $3.25 additional for foreign mailing.